

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of canceling a speech interaction session, comprising:  
  
receiving a signal indicating that a predetermined switch has been set to a first state;  
  
monitoring a time parameter indicative of a time the switch remains in the first state; and  
  
canceling the speech interaction session if the time parameter exceeds a threshold.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein monitoring a time parameter indicative of a time the switch remains in the first state comprises starting a timer in response to the signal.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:  
  
setting a flag indicating that the switch is in the first state; and  
  
recording a time stamp indicative of a time at which the signal is received.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the time stamp corresponds to a signal clock time.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein canceling the speech interaction session if the time parameter exceeds a threshold comprises:

monitoring a state of the switch; and

canceling the speech interaction session if a result of subtracting the time stamp from a current system time exceeds a threshold.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein canceling the speech interaction session comprises reversing any operations performed during the speech interaction session.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein monitoring a time parameter indicative of the time the switch remains in the first state comprises:

monitoring a state of the switch; and

invoking a new speech interaction session if the state of the switch changes from a first state to a second state before the time parameter exceeds a threshold.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising resetting a timer if a state of the switch changes from a first state to a second state before the time parameter exceeds a threshold.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising initiating a new speech interaction session if the time parameter does not exceed a threshold.
10. The method of claim 9, further comprising determining whether a device is in a power on state and whether a user is logged into the device.
11. One or more computer-readable media comprising logic instructions which, when executed by a processor, configure the processor to:
- start a timer in response to a received signal indicating that a predetermined switch has been set to a first state;
  - monitor a state of the switch; and
  - cancel a speech interaction session if a time parameter exceeds a threshold.
12. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 11, further comprising logic instructions which, when executed by a processor, configure the processor to:
- set a flag indicating that the switch is in the first state; and
  - record a time stamp indicative of the time at which the signal is received.

13. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 11, further comprising logic instructions which, when executed by a processor, configure the processor to cancel the speech interaction session if a result of subtracting the time stamp from a current system time exceeds a threshold.

14. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 13, further comprising logic instructions which, when executed by a processor, configure the processor to reverse any operations performed during the speech interaction session.

15. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 11, further comprising logic instructions which, when executed by a processor, configure the processor to invoke a new speech interaction session if a state of the switch changes from a first state to a second state before the time parameter exceeds a threshold.

16. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 11, further comprising logic instructions which, when executed by a processor, configure the processor to reset a timer if a state of the switch changes from a first state to a second state before the time parameter exceeds a threshold.

17. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 11, wherein the one or more computer-readable media comprises at least one of an electronic memory module, a magnetic memory module, and an optical memory module.

18. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 11, further comprising logic instructions which, when executed by a processor, configure the processor to initiate a new speech interaction session if the time parameter does not exceed a threshold.

19. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 11, further comprising logic instructions which, when executed by a processor, configure the processor to determine whether a device is in a power on state and whether a user is logged into the device.

20. A system, comprising:
- a processing unit;
  - one or more input devices communicatively connected to the processor for generating one or more input signals;
  - a memory module associated with the processor, the memory module comprising:
    - a speech interaction module for receiving spoken commands from a user and generating computer-executable instructions from the spoken commands; and
    - a speech interaction cancellation module for receiving an input signal from the one or more input devices and terminating a speech interaction session in response to the input signal.